

## Eureka County 2012 Wildfire Awareness- Firewise Community Days

*Theme: It Takes a Community—You Can Make a Difference!*

The 2012 Eureka County Wildfire Awareness – Firewise Community Days began in Eureka on May 4<sup>th</sup> and then traveled to Crescent Valley on May 5<sup>th</sup>. Approximately 340 people from the County attended these events, with over 70 volunteers. Attendees spoke to volunteers and various agencies about ways they could become proactive in protecting their home from wildfires. Booths at these events reflected this year's theme: It Takes a Community – You Can Make a Difference. After visiting the booths, attendees enjoyed a free BBQ lunch. Ed Smith, University Nevada Cooperative Extension Living with Fire game a short presentation. The event finished out with the results of the free raffle with items to help homeowners create defensible space and Defensible Space Poster Contests.

### Eureka—May 4<sup>th</sup>

#### Booths:

Living with Fire  
Fire Resistant Plants grown by local FFA  
Bureau of Land Management (BLM)  
U.S. Forest Service  
Defensible Space display  
Home construction / Landscaping  
Evacuation Planning  
General Moly/ Eureka Moly—Fire Extinguisher Education



#### Partners:

Firewise Communities USA  
Eureka/Diamond Valley Firewise Community  
Diamond Mt. FFA  
Eureka 4-H  
Eureka Volunteer Fire Department  
BLM- Battle Mountain District  
US Forest Service-Austin Ranger District  
Eureka County  
Living with Fire  
General Moly/Eureka Moly  
Eureka Lions Club

**Volunteers: 48**

**Estimated Attendance: 210**



#### Kid's activities:

Ember House  
Play dough  
Smokey Bear  
Smokey Bear Bean Bag toss  
Fire Trivia Bean Bag toss  
Defensible Space Poster Contest Results



### Crescent Valley—May 5<sup>th</sup>

#### Booths

Living with Fire  
Fire Resistant Plants grown by local FFA  
Bureau of Land Management (BLM)  
Defensible Space display  
Evacuation Planning  
Barrick-Cortez Fire Engine  
General Moly/Eureka Moly— Fire Extinguisher Education



#### Kid's Activities

Ember house  
Play dough  
Smokey Bear  
Bike Raffle  
Defensible Space Poster Contest Results



#### Partners

Firewise Communities USA  
Crescent Valley/Beowawe Firewise Community  
Diamond Mountain FFA  
Eureka 4-H  
Crescent Valley Volunteer Fire Dept.  
Beowawe Volunteer Fire Dept.  
Eureka County  
General Moly  
Barrick-Cortez Mine  
Living with Fire  
BLM-Battle Mountain District



**Volunteers: 25**

**Estimated Attendance:130**





# Results of Efforts

- Lots of educational material being distributed
  - Thank you Living With Fire!
- Record County Clean Up Days
  - Weekend following WAW event
- Noticeable difference at some properties
- Positive feedback from homeowners
- People asking for help in assessing their risk

- What is the definition of “community”
  - Old French *communité* which is derived from the Latin *communitas*
  - *cum*, “with/together” + *munus*, “gift”
- A community is more than an organization

–Strong Leaders

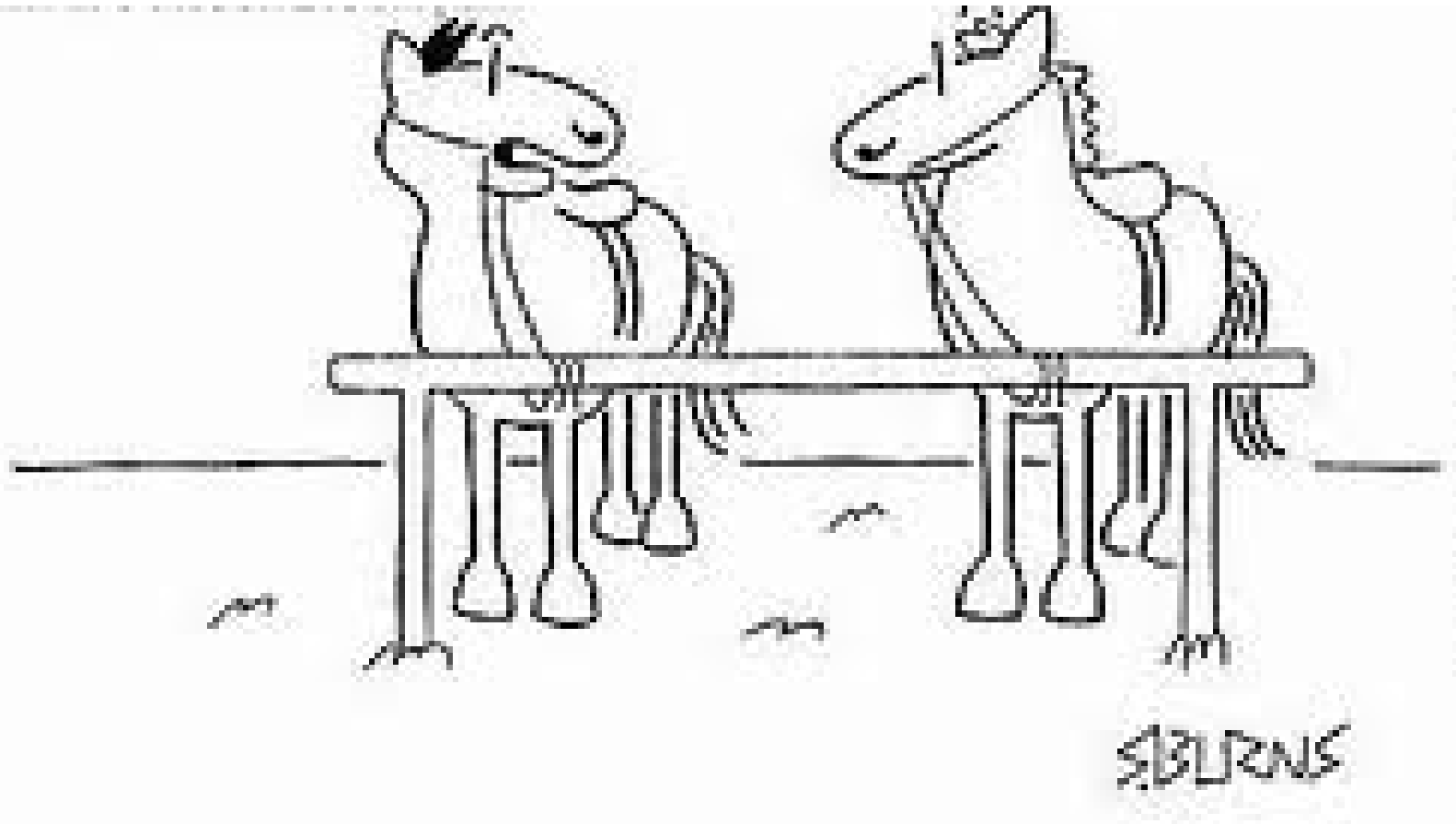
–Active Youth

–Close To Home

# Leadership = Surrounding Yourself With Willing Horses (Including Yourself)



# Appreciate Your Workhorses



"I carry burdens, yes...but I certainly don't think of myself as a beast."

# Involvement of Youth

- Parents, grandparents, siblings, friends, neighbors will show up too—and may take something home with them!
- FFA
- 4-H
- Schools
  - Educational opportunity that they take home
    - Poster contest

# Focus Locally

- Make it convenient for people to participate
- If you feed them, they will come!
- Local governmental support
  - Fill the Commissioner's or Council's chambers with concerned citizens (i.e., VOTERS)
  - A currently underutilized and overlooked local "pot" of money is available
    - Secure Rural Schools and Community Self Determination Act Title III Funds
      - Firewise Communities, USA





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CRESCENT VALLEY

EUREKA

## Crescent Valley

Crescent Valley is located in north Eureka County, in a large valley northwest of the Coast Mountains. Beowave, a small community south of Crescent Valley, sits along the Union Pacific Railroad and the Humboldt River. The Crescent Valley/Beowave terrain is mostly flat and vegetation is light, but the community still faces several issues that could increase their wildfire risk.



Some structures in Crescent Valley/Beowave, for example, are scattered throughout the wildland area. Overgrown grass, brush and other debris has collected near several old and unoccupied buildings throughout the community. A few of the homes have features such as unenclosed balconies, porches, or decks that could trap flying embers and ignite, spreading fire to the home.



Recommendations by the hazard assessment team to address these and other wildfire risks included:

- Construction and maintenance of planned fuel reduction treatments on approximately 670 acres in the wildland-urban interface;
- Promotion and enforcement of a brush clearance program for cleaning weeds and debris from around structures and fences in the community;
- Vegetation removal within ten feet of all fire hydrants to improve visibility and access.



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CRESCENT VALLEY

EUREKA

## Eureka

Eureka is located in southeast Eureka County, Nevada. The town of 440 people is situated at the north end of a narrow canyon with steep slopes. To the north of Eureka is Diamond Valley, a large agricultural farming community which contains numerous ranches of varying sizes.



A team of forest and fire behavior experts assessed the Eureka/Diamond Valley community for its wildfire risk and found that its topography, flammable trees and brush, and other development features contributed to its wildfire risk. For example, although wildland vegetation typically does not encroach into the developed areas of Eureka, fuel hazards in the interface can be extreme. Piñon and Juniper woodlands located west of the community can be found on steep slopes, with trees 15 feet in height and canopy spacing of 10 to 25 feet between trees. Grazing has helped to minimize excess vegetation, but dense shrublands are interspersed throughout some of the woodlands. In the case of Diamond Valley, clusters of structures are scattered throughout the wildland area and boundaries between wildland fuels and structures are often unclear.

Most of the homes in interface areas were built with ignition-resistant treated wood siding and fire-resistant roofing materials. Some of these homes, however, have unenclosed balconies, porches, decks or other architectural features that provide areas where sparks and embers can be trapped and left to smolder, ignite, and rapidly spread fire to the home. In addition, historic homes and buildings in the center of Eureka were not constructed with fire-resistant building materials and could be at higher risk.



Full Funding Amount: Fiscal Year:		\$500,000,000 FY2008			\$450,000,000 FY2009			\$405,000,000 FY2010			\$364,500,000 FY2011			\$346,275,000 FY2012
State	Eligible County	FY2008 25% (7-year rolling average) Payment	County Share of State Payment	County Share of Transition Payment	FY2009 25% (7-year rolling average) Payment	County Share of State Payment	County Share of Transition Payment	FY2010 25% (7-year rolling average) Payment	County Share of State Payment	County Share of Transition Payment	FY2011 25% (7-year rolling average) Payment	County Share of State Payment	NO Transition Payment for FY2011	Projected County Share of State Payment
		NV	Carson City		\$9,803			\$9,684			\$9,505			\$9,379
NV	Clark		\$226,090			\$213,776			\$214,450			\$233,197		\$224,460
NV	Douglas		\$31,371			\$29,257			\$27,119			\$29,549		\$30,130
NV	Elko		\$1,047,105			\$943,819			\$858,331			\$841,155		\$697,319
NV	Esmeralda	\$34,171			\$34,941			\$35,501			\$36,695			\$45,451
NV	Eureka		\$138,295			\$148,634			\$99,499			\$108,297		\$127,635
NV	Humboldt		\$329,120			\$328,479			\$291,181			\$269,346		\$163,306
NV	Lander		\$246,675			\$237,454			\$193,443			\$158,578		\$162,069
NV	Lincoln		\$61,292			\$68,082			\$55,265			\$55,639		\$63,163
NV	Lyon		\$437,901			\$436,398			\$402,157			\$385,813		\$343,928
NV	Mineral		\$543,418			\$520,272			\$369,038			\$349,373		\$314,887
NV	Nye		\$2,267,029			\$2,239,783			\$2,019,777			\$2,028,963		\$1,885,161
NV	Washoe		\$58,204			\$55,268			\$53,587			\$60,429		\$56,040
NV	White Pine		\$651,484			\$595,165			\$552,112			\$545,130		\$525,334

Carry out activities under the Firewise Communities program to provide to homeowners in fire-sensitive ecosystems education on, and assistance with implementing, techniques in home siting, home construction, and home landscaping that can increase the protection of people and property from wildfires